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ABSTRACT

This book is a step-by-step guide to creating and analyzing linguistic corpora. It defines a corpus as a collection of texts or parts of texts upon which some general linguistic analysis can be conducted. It begins with a discussion of the role that corpus linguistics plays in linguistic theory, demonstrating that corpora have proven to be very useful resources for linguists who believe that their theories and descriptions of English should be based on real, rather than contrived, data. It goes on to describe how to plan the creation of a corpus, how to collect and computerize data for inclusion in a corpus, how to annotate the data that are collected, and how to conduct a corpus analysis of a completed corpus. The book concludes with an overview of the future challenges that corpus linguists face to make both the creation and analysis of corpora much easier undertakings than they currently are. Two appendixes contain corpus resources and concordancing programs. (Contains approximately 185 references.) (SM)

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